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PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Question of the death penalty

Note by the Secretary-General

1. By its resolution 2000/65, the Commission on Human Rights requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission on Human Rights, at its fifty-seventh session, in consultation with Governments, specialized agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, a yearly supplement on changes in law and practice concerning the death penalty worldwide to his quinquennial report on capital punishment and implementation of the Safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty.

2. The quinquennial reports on capital punishment and implementation of the Safeguards guaranteeing the rights of those facing the death penalty referred to in Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/65, have been prepared by the Centre for International Crime Prevention at the United Nations Office at Vienna. To date, five such reports have been submitted, the most recent one in 1995 (E/1995/78 and Add.1). A report of the Secretary-General on this subject was

also submitted to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its fifth session in 1996 (E/CN.15/1996/19), which consolidated the information contained in the fifth quinquennial report with additional information received up to March 1996.

3. The Centre for International Crime Prevention at the United Nations Office at Vienna will submit in May to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice the sixth quinquennial report of the Secretary-General on capital punishment and on the implementation of the safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty, 1994-1998.

4. This report will be made available to the Commission on Human Rights at the present session.